



United States Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Idaho Fish And Wildlife Office
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In Reply Refer To:
01EIFW00-2019-TA-1246

MAY 31 2019

Nora B. Rasure, Regional Forester
United States Forest Service, Intermountain Region
324 25th Street
Ogden, Utah 84401

Dear Ms. Rasure:

Thank you for your letter of April 19, 2019, received in our office on May 2, 2019, regarding potential impacts of the U.S. Forest Service 2019 Greater Sage-Grouse Land Management Plan Amendments (2019 LMPA) for National Forest System Lands in Idaho to federally listed species. You have determined that the 2019 LMPA will have similar effects to species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*) and their proposed or designated critical habitats, as those effects which resulted from the 2015 LMPA. ESA consultation for the 2015 LMPAs was completed on June 11, 2015. Therefore, you have concluded that the 2019 LMPA will not trigger the requirement to reinitiate consultation in accordance with section 7(a)(2) of the ESA, 50 CFR §402.16. We agree with your conclusion and appreciate the opportunity to review the information that supports your conclusion.

We appreciate your efforts to ensure the conservation of endangered, threatened, and candidate species. If you have any questions regarding this letter or your responsibilities under the ESA, please contact Jason Pyron of my office at the letterhead address or phone number (208) 685-6958.

Sincerely,


for Greg Hughes
State Supervisor

cc:Regional Wildlife Program Lead, R4 USFS (J. Shivik)
Idaho State Sage-grouse Coordinator, USFS (R. Mickelsen)
Idaho Sage-grouse Staff Biologist, IDFG (A. Moser)
Terrestrial Species Manager, OSC (J. Uriarte)